

The Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

Congratulations on your appointment to Chair the FCC. In your new leadership role, I urge you to support the "Fair Share Plan" as a solution to current concerns with the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Fair Share Plan will keep the USF fair, ensuring that consumers like me do not pay the same rate into the USF as big businesses, regardless of how little I may use long distance. I am a cattleman and in the past had an old fashioned bag phone to use just in emergency circumstances. That was costing me \$12 a month plus all of the taxes which was another almost \$4 for a total of \$192 for a phone I rarely used. (Used it twice as I recall, both times in Oklahoma when I was lost and trying to find the ranch where I was going to look at some cows) Had it over 12 years. (total expense \$2304) That too me was an un-needed expense. So my wife said get one of those new phones where you just pay so much a month on a card and then use the phone for long distance or whatever and still have a phone for emergencies. Sounded good even to an old codger like myself. (tender age of 69) Please don't penalize me for trying to save money.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition submitted the Fair Share Plan to the FCC on January 31, 2005. It expands who pays into the USF so that other technologies - not just phones - pay into the system. The Fair Share Plan collects the USF using a combination numbers- and revenue-based plan. This keeps the system fair, equitable and non-discriminatory.

Under the flat fee or numbers-based plan you are considering, people like me who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. I believe it would be unfair to charge low-volume and residential customers the same fees as high-volume residential or business customers. I urge you to keep the USF fair, and adopt the Fair Share Plan. Thank you for reading this letter and bless you for the important work you are doing in keeping the playing field level for all the small players. Yours very truly,

Elliott L Shimley 1054 McCollum Road Barnesville, Georgia, 30204

cc: Marlene Dortch, Secretary

Sincerely,

Elliott Shimley  
1054 McCollum Road  
Barnesville, Georgia 30204  
cc:  
Senator Saxby Chambliss  
Senator Johnny Isakson  
Representative Lynn Westmoreland

